THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

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VOLUME XXVII. PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1847. WHOLE NO. 1365.

Original Poetry.

THE UNIVERSAL RAGE.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

It is a fact well known to all,
To rich and poor, to great and small,
That Man was made to imitate
And do like others, sans debate.
That this is true, we daily see,
(I find it very strong in me;)
The Babe, the Youth, the Man and Sage
All feel the universal rage.
It never grants one moment's rest,
But burneth fiercely in the breast.
Whate'er my fellow man may do
I think I'd like to do it too.
If he should laugh, I do the same,
No matter whence his laughter came;
No matter if absurd or blind,
A fellow booby's still behind
To do, and speak, and move as I
As though he got a salary.
You never now can be alone—
At most, sir, can you give the "tone;"
For thousands, with a desperate speed
Rush blindly on where'er you lead.
Content to imitate, they go—
Wherefore? or whither? few may know.
Sir George is fond of fun and sprees,
And soon he finds a thousand G's,
That laugh, and shout, and drink, and swear—
And think such fun is wond'rous rare;
But not because they feel it such,
But that Sir George enjoys it much.
They ruin fortune, health and all,
But still they hear Sir George's call;
On, on they whirl—they see him glad—
"Why, then, my friends, should we be sad?"
Oh! something in it must be true,
Or else Sir George would give up too.
There's Dives—driving off at speed
To dine upon the verdant mead.
He cannot bear the Dog-star's ray,
For who 'mid burning bricks would stay?
"Off to the Country—Milk and Cream!"
A thousand parching tongues will scream—
"I cannot bear this wretched hole
[illegible]

Original Tales.

RAILROAD POLITENESS.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

BY KATE SUTHERLAND.

[illegible]

The Supernatural.

TRYING THE FORTUNE, AND SPECTRAL ILLUSIONS.

BY CAROLINE ORNE.

[illegible]

Original Poetry.

A SONG.

BY GRACE GREENWOOD.

[illegible]

TO THE MOON.

[illegible]

Pictures of Life.

A LEGEND OF WEST POINT.

[illegible]

For the Ladies.

THE MILLER'S MAID.

A STORY OF FEMALE HEROISM.

[illegible]

called out to cut the child's throat before her eyes if she still persisted in her refusal. Poor Hanchen's heart quailed at this horrible threat; for a moment her resolution failed, but only for a moment. The death of the child could be no gain to them, while her own death was certain if she admitted the assailant, and her master, too, would be robbed. She had no reason either to suppose that her compliance would save the life of the child. It was to risk all against nothing, and she resolved to hold out to the last, though the villain from without renewed his threats, saying that if she would not open the door to him he would kill the child, and then set fire to the mill over her head. 'I put my trust in God,' was still the poor girl's answer.

"In the meanwhile, the ruffian sat down the child for a moment, to look about for combustibles to carry out his threat. In this search, he discovered a mode of entering the mill unthought of by Hanchen. It was a large aperture in the wall, communicating with the great wheel and other machinery of the mill, and it was a point entirely unprotected, for it had never been contemplated that any one would seek to enter by so dangerous an inlet. Triumphant at this discovery, he returned to tie the hands and feet of the poor child, to prevent its escape, and then stole back to the aperture by which he intended to effect an entrance. The situation of the building prevented Hanchen seeing anything of this, but a thought had meanwhile struck her. It was Sunday, when the mill was never at work; if therefore, the sails were set in motion, the whole neighborhood would know that something was the matter, and her master especially would hasten home, to know the meaning of anything so strange.

"Being all her life accustomed to the machinery of the mill, it was the work of a moment, to set it all in motion—a brisk breeze, which sprang up at once, set the sails flying. The arms of the huge engine whirled round with fearful rapidity; the great wheel slowly revolved on its axle; the smaller gear turned, and creaked, and groaned, according as the machinery came into action; the mill was in full operation. It was at this moment that the ruffian intruder had succeeded in squeezing himself through the aperture in the wall, and getting himself safely lodged in the interior of the great drum wheel. His dismay, however, was indescribable, when he began to be whirled about with its rota- [illegible]

[illegible] relief, and she fell fainting in their arms, and was with much difficulty recovered. The machinery of the mill was at once stopped, and the inanimate ruffian dragged from his dreadful prison. Heinrich, too, was brought forth from the miller's chamber, and both were in a short time sent bound under a strong escort to Boon, where they soon after met the reward of their crimes."

The story of this extraordinary act of presence of mind concludes by telling us that Hanchen, thus effectually cured of her penchant for her unworthy suitor, became eventually the wife of the miller's eldest son, and thus lived all her life in the scene of her imminent danger and happy deliverance.

Our Scrap Book.

WHAT OUR FINE FRUITS HAVE SPRUNG FROM.

The Peach, originally, was a poisonous almond. Its fleshy parts were then used to poison arrows, and it was for this purpose introduced into Persia; the transplanting and cultivation, however, not only removed its poisonous qualities, but produced the delicious fruit we now enjoy.

The Nectarine and Apricot are natural hybridations between the peach and plum.

The Cherry was originally a berry-like fruit, and cultivation has given each berry a separate stem, and improves its quality; the common mazzard is the original of most of the present kinds of Cherries.

The common Wild Pear is even inferior to the Choke Pear; but still, by cultivation, it has come to rank among our finest fruits. The Cabbage originally came from Germany, and is nothing more than common sea kale. Its cultivation has produced the present Cabbage, and its different acclimatings, the different kinds; while its hybridation with other similar plants has produced the Cauliflower.

The Cooley Rauber, or Cabbage Turnip, is a hybridation between the Cabbage and Turnip, and has lately been introduced into America. The Brassica Rapa, Brassica Napus, Esculenta, Navet, and other similar vegetables, have been produced by similar means.

Celery, although so tender and fine flavored, is the same plant as the wild celery on the borders of the rivers emptying into the Chesapeake Bay, and is the natural food of canvass back and black ducks.

This shows the benefit of cultivation in the vegetable world, but the change which cultivation has effected in the mind of man is infinitely greater.

A Fine Passage.—In one of Ralph Waldo Emerson's inimitable lectures, occurs the following striking paragraph, which every heart will acknowledge to be as truthful as it is beautiful:

"When the act of reflection takes place in the mind, when we look at ourselves in the light of thought, we discover that our life is embosomed in beauty. Behind us, as we go, all things assume pleasing forms, as clouds do afar off. Not only things familiar and stale, but even the tragic and terrible, are comely, as they take their place in the pictures of memory. The river bank, the weed at the water side, the old house, the foolish person, however neglected at the passing, have a grace in the past. Even the corpse that has lain in the chambers, has added a solemn ornament to the house. The soul will not know either deformity or pain."

☞ A windy political orator recently made a speech, in every sentence of which he had something to say about sound political principles. A bystander remarked that if his principles were like his speech, they were all sound.

United States SATURDAY POST.

HENRY PETERSON, EDITOR.

Philadelphia:

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1847.

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TO SUBSCRIBERS.

As the Post Office regulation relative to Drafts, has been repealed, subscribers will have to resort to the old mode of forwarding current funds direct to us. Subscriptions may be sent at our risk.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. S. L. We will endeavor to find room for J. S. L.'s communication in our next paper.

DECLINED. Drudo's translation should have been condensed in the translating. It is interesting in parts, but too much spun out. It can be obtained by calling upon our clerk at this office.

ACCEPTED. "Enigma," by W. C. F., and "To Miss S. B."

PARTIALITY. Declined. We don't thank the author for sending us a long tale, without paying the postage on it.

EDITORIAL GOSSIP.

We think we have a first-rate paper this week, to lay before our readers. Kate Sutherland's article on Railroad Politeness will be found amusing, and though our own experience of Railroad travelling is not quite so unfavorable to the courtesy of the gentlemen, a little stirring up occasionally will do them no harm. Courtesy to females is one of the brightest features in our national character, and it will not do to allow it to become sullied. It would be well for gentlemen to remember that a cheerfully bestowed act of courtesy is a very different thing from one which seems to be the result of necessity. That there is some room for the strictures of Kate, is shown by the appearance of the following ironical directions to Railroad travellers, which we find credited to the American Punch:—

A FEW DIRECTIONS TO RAILROAD TRAVELLERS.—Having your valise in one hand and your umbrella in the other, make a grand rush for the steps, if you knock over an old lady and two or three little girls, so much the better, it will teach them to keep out of the way another time. Having thus secured an early entrance into the cars, you will have an opportunity to select the most commodious seats, every gentleman will of course expect at least two seats. Put your valise on the inside one, take the other side yourself, with your umbrella by the way of barrier on the outside—and it will require uncommon boldness to attack a fortress thus guarded. After having thus disposed of yourself and chattels, you will place one foot on the seat in front, and then proceed to take a mouthful of tobacco—every gentleman will of course provide himself with a good stock of this fragrant weed. As expectoration is considered wholesome, you will proceed to discharge your saliva, if the day be warm and pleasant, on the floor of the car—if it should be cold and stormy, it will be judicious to open the window, and let drive in that direction. If the conductor is not on the watch, you may perhaps contrive to get a whiff of a cigar, which will add much to the comfort of the passengers.

If you see a lady entering opposite you unprotected, particularly if she be pretty and embarrassed, stretch yourself back in your two seats and stare at her, until some green horn not as knowing as yourself, gives up his seat for her accommodation. If you get tired with one position, you can relieve yourself by running your feet at length across the passage. This affords great amusement to the passengers, as it almost infallibly trips up some infirm old gentleman in haste to get out at a way station.

But to return to our paper. Grace Greenwood has favored us this week with a very pretty little song, which shines like a gem in our columns; and the "Legend of West Point," "The Miller's Maid," and "Spectral Illusions," will all be found full of interest. The Present Condition of the Laboring Classes," by the celebrated philosophical and phrenological writer, George Combe, is a clear, calm and forcible view of a very important subject. We have not space to refer particularly to the other selected articles in this week's paper, but we think they are all worthy of the space they occupy in our columns.

THE BRITISH IN CHINA.

Among the foreign news, brought by the last arrivals, is a statement that further difficulties were daily expected between the Chinese and their English dictators. The people of China seem goaded to madness by the exactions of the British Government, and the pusillanimity of their own. At the last advices all trade was at a stand in Canton, and it had become unsafe for the English to leave their factories. The people threatened to burn down the factories, unless the English return to the ground on the "Honan side," which was recently extorted from the Canton authorities by the threat to demolish that city, is relinquished. This of course the British will never do—they never recede in their advances upon a half civilized people, but remorselessly move on to their purpose of subjugation and mercantile spoliation. It is terrible to see a great people, all ablaze with the lightning power of a high civilization, remorselessly treading beneath their feet the rights of their weaker brethren. It is as if angels and cherubim should clothe themselves in their armor of heavenly brightness, and sweep down upon those nations of mankind which approach nearest to themselves in stature, using their angelic powers only to desolate and to destroy.

From the first, the course of the British Government in China has been one of unmitigated wrong. We have always thought so, but now we know so. We thought so, but never having read more than one side of the question, we hesitated to condemn—we could not believe that the statesmen of England, in the nineteenth century, would pursue a course towards a weak and half-civilized nation, as utterly unjustifiable as that pursued by the Spaniards to ward Peru and Mexico. But such we now believe to be the fact—we even believe their conduct to be more unjustifiable; for the Spaniards verily thought they were doing God service, as well as enriching themselves; but the course of the British in China, according to their own showing, has been animated by no high, even if mistaken, motive—by no loftier thirst for the glory of God, but by the meanest mercantile cupidity. But, lest our readers should think we are too severe, we will quote a portion of the speech of Lord Palmerston, the British Minister of Foreign Affairs, delivered at the hustings, at the late election in Tiverton, England. The speech was made in answer to a Chartist, yes, he, who is represented in the account from which we quote as the pink of England's aristocracy, graceful, polished, ready and eloquent,—verily condescended to reply to the charges against his official course made by a mere Chartist, a poor devil of a fellow, rough, uneducated, uncouth, with nothing but his own honest heart, and his own rude honest convictions, (not very faultily expressed, we dare say,) of what God had ordained as eternally just and right. Among other things which the rude Chartist uttered in his rough, rude way, and "my lord" answered in his polished, [illegible], elegant manner, was a reference to the course of the British government upon the Opium Question, which not all the polished rhetoric and plausibility of the "noble lord," could make appear a shade less black than the prince of all lies and evil is generally painted. Lord Palmerston answered the charges brought against him and the government, as follows:—

"Finally, we come to China. Opium was smuggled into that country in immense quantities, and the mandarins who ought to have prevented its introduction, received a certain sum of money upon every chest for shutting their eyes and not seeing where it went. But these Chinese authorities suddenly turned round on the men who had been their partners in this smuggling trade, and in order to extort money, required them to give up all the opium they had in their possession; and they took thirty or forty British merchants, along with the British Consul, and shut them up, and plainly told them they should be starved unless they delivered up their stocks of opium. Mr. Harvey has talked of Oliver Cromwell, and the manner in which he used to deal with foreign Governments. Now I should like to know what Cromwell would have said if twenty or thirty British subjects and an officer of the Commonwealth had been shut up in China and told they were to be starved. I know what he would have done. He would have stood no nonsense. This was what we did. We said: 'This won't do, gentlemen of China; you have extorted valuable property from British subjects by a threat of shutting them up till they die of starvation; we call upon you to refund.' They refused; force was employed; and we brought them to our terms."

How the truth, the old true story which we could never prevail upon ourselves fully to believe, stands out from the glossing extenuations of the above! These British merchants, then, it is acknowledged, *were* smugglers—they were not honorable merchants, worthy of the protection of their government while prosecuting an honest calling; but they were *smugglers*—men engaged in daily, hourly violations of the laws of China. But the Chinese mandarins had been bribed by them—they "received a certain sum of money upon every chest." A pretty excuse this for the conduct of the English merchants and their Government—as if the bribery of the revenue officers of a country, justified the conduct of the smugglers who bribed them. And yet it is the only excuse—none other is offered.

But away with such nonsense! The plain and self-evident fact of the matter is, that the British Government had made up its mind that this smuggling should continue—it was profitable to the British Nation, and it should continue—whether the Chinese Government acquiesced or not. Britain bought yearly great quantities of tea from China, and the British Government was determined that the payments should be made in Opium and not in silver and gold. It cared not whether the opium was smuggled into China, or was admitted in accordance with Chinese law; the only thing Britain cared for, was, that it was admitted, and thereby prevented the drain of precious metals from her shores. And to attain this end, she made war upon China, using as a pretence the vindication of the rights of British subjects; but really and truly to force a poisonous drug in exchange for a healthy beverage. Yes, England—Christian England, said to Pagan China, in the nineteenth century, we *will* have your tea, and you *shall* take in exchange our poison!

God in heaven! is this the boasted march of Christian civilization! Were knowledge, and refinement, and power given to certain nations, that they might oppress and degrade their weaker brethren,—using Thy lightnings for Thy children's destruction? Or is it thus that nations are weighed in the balance—*and thus are found wanting*. Is it on account of such abuses of the great powers that Thou hast mercifully conferred, that mighty nations, gradually or rapidly, decay and perish? Was it for this reason that Babylon, the haughty spoiler of nations, that Tyre, the once proud and despotic "mistress of the seas," that hundred-gated Thebes, and faithless Carthage, and the fertile land of the overflowing Nile, became as trunks which the lightning had blasted, and as temples which the slow fingers of decay had shattered. Was it because of this, that Rome the smiter, that iron hammer in the hands of the Most High, was also smitten in her turn—a voice of wail, a voice as of the desponding genius of humanity, ringing out from the seven-hilled city, as the barbarians clove down the senate, even in the very senate chamber, "Thou, also, Rome, my greatest hope,—thou, also, hast been weighed in the balance, and found wanting!"

Yes, it is so! And what has been, shall be, for there is nothing new under the sun. Nations shall rise, and prove false to their trust, and perish. Into their hands shall be placed power sufficient to regenerate and raise to glory the whole race of man. And that moment when they shall begin systematically and deliberately to abuse that power to their own selfish purposes, that moment the decree shall go forth,—"Thou shalt surely die." Not, that with nations more than with individuals, will the Great Ruler be a hard master; errors may be committed, errors may be atoned for—David may commit grievous faults at times, but still be a man after God's own heart; for the Most High is full of mercy, and He would not that any should perish. But for man or nation, prosperity is not *possible*, without virtue and justice. Without them a man or nation must sink, like Peter, as his faith ebbed from him. The true, the magnanimous, the unselfish, the heroic, the self-denying, are the qualities which enable a nation to prosper, become mighty and endure.

But we have been led away from our subject—and yet not entirely led away from it. Will England still live in lusty strength and prosper? No, assuredly, if her principle of action in China, is made her *leading* rule of action. But she may redeem her tarnished character—an opportunity even now appears to be opening, such as may, if properly improved, atone for much injustice [illegible]. Europe seems even now on the verge of revolution. Italy is burning to throw off the yoke of centuries, and take once more her true place among the nations. Spain and Portugal are smothered volcanoes. Switzerland longs to be a Power, and not a nonentity. England's word is all powerful in Europe for good or for evil. Will she speak—and how? Time will show.

A TERRIBLE SCENE.

The French steamship Union brought an account of a most unnatural and revolting murder having been recently perpetrated at Paris, which has caused great excitement in that city. The murderer was no less a person than the Duke of Praslin, one of the wealthiest noblemen in France, and the victim was his wife.

Had the union of these parties been a mere European "marriage of convenience," there would have been less reason to wonder at such a crime; but it was not. The Duchess was a daughter of Marshal Sebastiani, with a large fortune in her own right, and was married at the age of eighteen to the Duke, in opposition to the wishes of her relatives. It was emphatically a love match.

It appears that the Duke and Duchess lived happily together for many years, and were blessed with a numerous family—six daughters and three sons being the result of their union. And, as they had married early, they were still short of the meridian of life, the Duke being only 42 and the Duchess 39.

Of late years, however, dissensions had arisen between them, in consequence of the attentions shown by the Duke to a woman who was a governess in the family—the Duchess, having married from *love*, being probably more averse to the usual license taken by French husbands, than if she had married merely to please her family. The woman, accordingly, was dismissed from her situation.

On the 17th of last month, however, the Duke, who had been staying at his chateau in the country, arrived with his family in Paris, and took occasion to call in his carriage and see this governess, on his way to his residence in the city—some of the children being in the carriage with him, while the others were in another carriage with the Duchess.

Common report says that the Duchess expressed her displeasure in strong language at this visit to the governess of such an hour, and especially at her daughters being taken there; and that a sharp altercation ensued. Be that as it may, all was quiet, and the family had retired to rest at eleven o'clock—the Duke and his wife occupying separate apartments, as is very usual with the nobility in France. About half-past four in the morning, the Duke sought the room of the Duchess, with a cord, a knife, and a loaded pistol, and having first vainly attempted to strangle her, stabbed her in various places with the knife. The details of the struggle between the two, as given in the Paris papers, are too horrible to be inflicted upon our readers. It is sufficient to say that, the Duchess being a strong and powerful woman, and the Duke rather under the middle size, her struggle for life was a most desperate one. She at length succeeded in grasping the bell rope, but it was too late. When her attendants came, and forced open the door of the room, she was found in the agonies of death.

The Duke having despatched his victim, went to throw open the window of the adjoining room, to create the impression, as is supposed, that she had been assassinated by a robber, who had made his escape in that way; but a servant who had been alarmed by the cries of the waiting maid, (who heard her mistress moaning in the room,) and was unable to get in the door on account of its being locked, had hastened to the garden in order to make his way through the window in question, and recognized the Duke in the act of opening it.

When the Duke was summoned by his servants, he upbraided them for their carelessness in leaving the house unfastened, and took the dead body in his arms—a proceeding which is explained by the supposition that he wished to account for the blood upon his person. A considerable time elapsed before the Duke was suspected. But when the officers of justice had had time for reflection, they began to address questions to him which gave him reason to believe that his crime was discovered. He immediately became pale as a corpse, retired to his room, and swallowed a large quantity of arsenic. He was removed to prison, and dying on the [illegible] of last month, was buried at night in a secret and hurried manner, in the cemetery of Mont Parnasse—his coffin being a plain oak one, bearing no inscription. His eldest son, a youth of seventeen, also [illegible], being overwhelmed with grief for the loss of his mother, and shame at the [illegible] conduct of his father.

The murdered Duchess is represented to have been a beautiful woman, and a firm friend to the poor and distressed.

We have published this account, not only from its singularity, but as letting a little light upon the corruption of the higher classes of French society. We have long considered the city of Paris a kind of Sodom, where all kinds of vice were an every day occurrence. If we have wronged the French Capital by this thought, it is her own authors who are to blame. One of two things undeniably is true: either the pictures of French society drawn by the popular French authors, are monstrous exaggerations, and totally deficient in truth; or else Paris, the most licentious and Heaven abandoned city in Europe. And we may note as an evidence that we are not alone in the holding of this opinion, that four of the Paris journals, the Reforme, Gazette de France, Union Monarchique and Charivari, have been seized by the authorities for having published some strong remarks upon the murder of the Duchess, *and connected that event with the general corruption of society in France*.

THE FOREIGN NEWS.

The arrival of the Britannia, with Liverpool dates to September 4th, brings the important news that the panic still continues in the English money market, and that the prices of wheat and flour are still falling. The liabilities of defaulting houses in London, already exceed nine millions of dollars, while at Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, Dublin, &c., the failures are proportionably great. Among other failures we notice that of the Governor of the Bank of England—which has caused great dissatisfaction with the present arrangement of the Bank, that permits merchants in active business to be at the head of such an institution. The Governor, it is said, should be a man who understands mercantile affairs, but not given to speculation of any kind. It is required that a Governor of the Bank of England must own shares to the amount of £30,000 to qualify him for the office. A new Governor has been chosen.

In order to enable our readers to understand the condition of the grain market at a glance, we annex the following table:—

PRICES CURRENT AT LIVERPOOL.

	Aug. 14.	Aug. 19.	Sept. 4.
	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
Flour, 196 lb.	26 0a27 0	25 0a26 6	20 0a25 0
Wheat, 70 lb.	8 6a 9 0	6 3a 8 6	
Corn, 480 lb.	26 0a30 0	25 0a30 0	26 0a31 0
Meal, 196 lb.	14 0a14 0	12 0a15 6	14 0a15 0

Reduced to U. S. Currency.

(Calculated at twenty-four cents to the shilling.)

	Aug. 14.	Aug. 19.	Sept. 4.
Flour, 196 lb.	$6.24a6.48	6.00a6.36	4.80a6.12
Wheat, 70 lb.	2.04a2.16	1.62a2.04	
Corn, 480 lb.*	6.24a7.20	6.00a7.20	6.24a7.44
Meal, 196 lb.	3.36a3.36	2.88a3.24	3.36a3.60

* At 56 lb. to the bushel, 480 lb. is equal to eight and four sevenths bushels U. S. standard.

But, important as mercantile fluctuations in this age of the world undoubtedly are, the political affairs of nations are still more important. Our readers will perceive that a declaration of war by the Pope against Austria is daily expected. France, it is said, though we hardly credit it, will side with Austria; and it is also stated, (though this appears too good, while the other seems too bad, to be true,) that England is already concentrating a fleet to aid the Pope, in case hostilities should take place.

A communication "from the Italian frontier," in the Mannheim Journal, states that, in reply to a formal protest from Lord Palmerston, in the name of his Government, against Austrian intervention in the internal affairs of the states of the Church, the Austrian Cabinet has declared its determination not to interfere, "except in the last extremity, i. e., if the movement in the states of the Church threaten to compromise the tranquility of its own provinces."

If England, however, has made up her mind to support the Pope, we have no fear for the result. Italy will rally as one man around the flag of the sovereign pontiff, and we have considerable confidence that if the French Government dares to take *overt* steps to aid Austria, the people of France will make another three days of it. Things, however, are in such a state, as will cause us to await the arrival of the next steamer with unusual impatience.

DO SERPENTS HISS?

[We have received the following interesting communication on this subject, from the well known [illegible].]

MR. EDITOR:—Although I am no professed naturalist, I imagine I can settle this difficult question. I have seen a great many snakes, of many different kinds. I am not much afraid of them, and often pause to admire their glossy garb—their elegant proportions, and exceedingly graceful movements. I believe that every individual of the family is in the habit of darting out the tongue, when irritated—but the majority of snakes have red tongues—and not black. I have seen, besides the common streaked, and green snakes—the rattle snake, the copper head, the viper, a multitude of adders, the water snakes, the black snake, and the racer. Amongst all these, there is but one kind that hiss. This is of the adder family, having on the back a longitudinal stripe of black, from which radiate diamonds of black, on a grey or slate-colored ground. The under side of the snake is of light colors; red, yellow, and white, though its colors are more brilliant and distinct soon after it sheds its skin, than at other periods. This snake is known in Connecticut, (where I first saw it,) as the hissing adder. In Pennsylvania, where I now reside, it is called the "blowing viper." It is a lazy snake, and does not like to run, but when a person or other offensive object approaches, it assumes a posture of defiance, and literally puffs itself up to twice its natural size. Then, if still menaced, it emits a current of air from its mouth, with a loud hissing sound, which may be heard at the distance of several rods. I am astonished that neither your correspondent or yourself should be aware of the existence and habits of this snake—which, like most adders, delights in having its habitation in walls, old buildings, piles of rocks, &c., and is considered venomous. I have seen several, and [illegible]—and I detest them above all the snaky tribe. It is not a very common snake, but few persons who are familiar with the fields, are utter strangers to the Hissing Adder.

LYDIA JANE PEIRSON.

THE FRENCH STEAMSHIPS.

The Common Council of New York are about presenting the French steamer "New York" with a stand of colors.

If all the tales they tell of the bad management and want of provisions on board the French steamships be true, the New York Council had better present the "New York" with something more substantial than a stand of colors. It is said that after the French steamship which left New York some months ago, had been started a few hours, the captain called the passengers together, and gravely informed them that he had forgotten to provide sugar and some other necessary articles, requesting their opinion as to whether he had better put back for them, or go on without them. The passengers of course decided to go on. The same steamship, we believe, nearly ran out of coals before she got over, and had considerable difficulty in reaching her port. As expressive of the public opinion of the management of the French line, the Courrier des Etats Unis tells a story of a passenger by the "New York," who having sent on board a large quantity of baggage, one of the officers asked him what he had in all those trunks. "This valise," replied the passenger, "is full of sugar, and those three trunks are full of coal." The editor remarks upon this, that if it is not true, it is a pretty good joke.

THE ARMISTICE.

We do not think it necessary to publish the Armistice between Scott and Santa Anna, at length; but will briefly give the substance of it. It provides for the cessation of hostilities, within thirty leagues of the city of Mexico, so long as the Commissioners of the two governments may be engaged in negotiations, or until the commander of either of the armies shall give formal notice to the other of the cessation of the Armistice, and for forty-eight hours after such notice.

Neither army to advance, to interfere with the other's necessary supply of provisions, to commence any new fortifications, or to enlarge or strengthen any existing works, and all American prisoners to be exchanged. It is also provided that any couriers with despatches that either army shall desire to send along the line from the city of Mexico or its vicinity, to and from Vera Cruz, shall receive a safe conduct from the commander of the opposing army.

READY TO KILL OR CURE.

The Honesdale Tribune says that a medical practitioner of that place was commanded to "stand and deliver," recently, by some villains. It was night, but the Doctor had a gun-cane, with which he knocked one of the rogues down, and then rode on about his business. In a short time after, he was called to attend a [illegible] The Doctor refused to [illegible] gets [illegible]. It seems that the rascals were not aware of whom they were stopping.

THE STATE OF AFFAIRS.

We are still in ignorance as to the result of the negotiations between the American and Mexican Commissioners at the city of Mexico; for although the Spanish paper at New Orleans, *La Patria*, has already published a report that peace has been declared, much reliance is not placed upon it. The latest authentic accounts from Gen. Scott's Army, state that nothing is known yet by those not in authority, as to the condition of the negotiation. All that is known is that the Commissioners of the two nations have had several meetings, but with what results no one is able or willing to say.

The Vera Cruz correspondent of the New Orleans Commercial Times, whose information hitherto has proved to be tolerably correct, says, under date of Sept. 1st:

Since writing you this day at 12 o'clock, I have learned that it is the intention of the Mexicans to fall back to Guadalajara, and there continue this war on a guerilla plan, headed by General Paredes. It is reported that General Santa Anna has been pronounced a traitor by Valencia and Peres.

This presupposes that Santa Anna had declared himself for peace, and, as he is the head of the present government of Mexico, if such be the case it is a most favorable omen; but speculation is useless, when every day may bring us the facts of the matter.

In relation to the armistice, several versions are given. The most probable account of the matter is, that it was proposed by General Scott, (at the suggestion of Santa Anna, made through the British Minister,) to humor the foolish pride of the Mexican people.

If the Commissioners should not be able to agree upon the terms of a peace, Gen. Scott will doubtless immediately take possession of the Mexican capital, which appears to be at his mercy. The Mexican troops most probably, will make no resistance, but at once evacuate the city.

AFFECTING INCIDENT.

A young immigrant from Ireland, named John Smith, (no relative, we presume, of the distinguished gentleman who recently furnished an account of his peculiar grievances for the Post,) was found recently in one of the streets of Brooklyn, New York, lying by a fence, under the full influence of the small pox. He had been in search of his sister, who had come to this country some years ago, but upon inquiring in the street where he expected to find her, he understood she had left that place, and gone to New York. While a conveyance was being procured by a benevolent gentleman who had been passing by, the poor fellow managed to crawl to a pump near to quench his raging thirst. He had hardly reached it, when a girl, from a neighboring residence, came for a pail of water; and, strange to tell, this was the sister of the poor stricken immigrant, whom she instantly recognised as her brother, and embraced with frantic joy, all loathsome as he was. And when the carriage arrived, she refused to be parted from him, but entered the vehicle and proceeded with him to the Poor House at Flatbush, desiring that her clothes might be sent to her. During the whole journey, she lavished the most affecting caresses upon her poor brother, and endeavored to cheer and encourage him in every endearing manner. Such instances, and similar ones are by no means of unfrequent occurrence, (let the worldly say what they will,) bear testimony to the glory which still abides, a precious heavenly radiance, amid the wreck and darkness of our fallen humanity.

Editorial Varieties.

NON-COMMITTALISM.

Mr. Van Buren, when engaged in active political life, always had the credit with his opponents of being non-committal; and notwithstanding the bold and decided manner in which he came out upon the Sub-Treasury and Texas questions, it is hard to persuade a large portion of the community, that he was not, as a general thing, exceedingly cautious how he declared his opinions. Our attention was drawn to the subject, however, by some anecdotes, illustrative of his alleged non-committalism, in the Alexandria Gazette; which, whether they be true or false, (and the last one is rather too extensive for any man of moderate gullibility to swallow,) are capital as jokes, however deficient they may be as facts:

"Four gentlemen were one day disputing on [illegible] proper pronunciation of the word [illegible], two pronounced it one way and two another. While arguing the point they espied Mr. Van Buren, then President of the United States, approaching, and they resolved to leave the question to him. Mr. Van Buren, on being applied to, inquired how they stood. He was told they were equally divided. Without a moment's hesitation, and putting on a peculiar smile, the President replied, 'No matter, gentlemen, how you pronounce the word, so you have plenty of the material,' and bowing most courteously, passed on his way."

Some years ago, the subject of Van Buren's non-committalism became the subject of conversation among a group of gentlemen congregated on board a Hudson River Packet. Some of the Ex-President's friends were present, and against the charge that he would never promptly give his opinion, stoutly defended him. In the midst of the discussion the steamer stopped at Kinderhook, and Mr. Van Buren came on board. A Whig among the crowd of disputants, upon his appearance, offered the bet of a champagne supper that he would not answer directly the simplest question. The bet was taken, and one of the gentlemen was authorized to ask Mr. Van Buren, "If the sun rose in the east." Singular as it may seem, this took the magician entirely by surprise. He looked grave, reflecting seriously, and after considerable hesitation said:—

"It depends upon the accident of more speculation to say the sun rises at any given place, for it must be conceded that the points of the compass are merely conventional."

The enlightened questioner retired amidst the most profound admiration, and paid the bet.

COMPLIMENTARY.

Upon our coming out in a new suit of type, week before last, some of our kind contemporaries embraced the occasion to pass a few remarks upon our appearance—which remarks we thought perhaps our readers might like to see, and therefore here they are. Major Freas, of the Germantown Telegraph, says:

The last number of the Saturday Evening Post appears in a handsome new dress, and it is in other respects got up with much care and judgment. The present editor, though young, holds a ready pen, and uses it with taste and ability. As to the Post, however, being the "most elegant paper in the country," which it asserts to be, we beg to offer the *Telegraph* as a foil, with its two and a half years' worn type.

Of course, Major, present company is always excepted. The "Telegraph" is a handsome, well managed sheet, and no mistake.

J. Bayard Taylor, of the Phoenixville Pioneer, gives his flattering opinion as follows:—

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.—This sterling old weekly came out last week in new and beautiful type, through the medium of which we enjoyed the many good things which it is sure to contain, with even more zest than usual. The Post is reputed, in character and worth, as well as appearance. Our friend, Henry Peterson, possesses the true talent and industry to keep it perpetually fresh and full of interest, and we are glad to learn that it is more successful than ever, under his editorial charge.

The Pennsylvania Inquirer, of this city, a paper edited by Robert Morris, well known by his contributions to American literature, says:—

The Saturday Evening Post of the present week is, as usual, abundantly provided with excellent matter—stories, poems, sketches—something suited to every taste. We are glad to hear that the Post is in a highly thriving and prosperous condition. It is an excellent weekly.

And last but not least, the Daily News, of this city, which has already taken a distinguished position among its contemporaries, pays the editor himself a compliment which it requires considerable nerve to copy:—

The Saturday Evening Post makes its appearance in an entire new dress. The Editor, Mr. Peterson, is a young but very able writer, and since he has filled the Editorial Chair the Post has been steadily acquiring consequence and popularity.

THE NEW YORK FAIR.

The New York Fair at Saratoga was attended by an immense number of people. Ex-Presidents Van Buren and Tyler were present. The address prepared by the lamented statesman, Silas Wright, was read—and it is said to be a very able paper. The exhibition of stock was rather poor, in consequence of the difficulty of getting to Saratoga—there being no means of conveyance but an old rickety railroad, upon which it was not safe to transport heavy cattle. The display of agricultural implements, improved machinery, and all kinds of Yankee notions and contrivances, was large and interesting. Fine fruits, flowers, vegetables, &c., were exhibited in abundance. Taken as a whole, the exhibition is said to have been inferior to former ones. Nevertheless, it was not to be sneezed at, except when the crowds assembled raised a dust.

JOHN C. SPENCER.

This gentleman, who was Secretary of the Treasury during Mr. Tyler's administration, has written a letter in which [illegible] he was opposed to Mr. Tyler's policy in relation to the Annexation of Texas, and resigned his office for that reason.

SANTA FE.

Recent accounts from Independence, Mo., corroborate the statements heretofore received, as to the infamous state of society at Santa Fe. A letter published in the Independence Expositor says:

"Lewdness in both sexes exhibits itself in the most glaring and shameless forms, and walks abroad at mid-day, as if the human family had dwindled down to nothing more than brute intellect, and to less than savage refinement. True, there are many of the officers and privates of Col. Price's regiment who are gentlemen, and hold themselves aloof from the vices and dissipation that are so contagious, and of which the very atmosphere seems composed; but, alas! for the large majority, they have expended more than the amount of their wages, and are, indeed, a reckless, ragamuffin band—a disgrace to the name of American soldiers, and will return to Missouri a miserable, ragged set, with morals corrupted, and will, ere long, be a great accession to our State Penitentiary."

Yes, that last consideration is the most vital of all, "they will return to Missouri," to their native homes, wherever they may be, and bring back a contagion of dissipation, more fatal to a country than any mere physical evil. Would that the disgrace that such conduct inflicts upon the American name and character, were all the mischief that such a want of soldierly discipline produces!

In all these statements, Col. Price is designated as the cause of this laxity of morals—his loose discipline giving the rein completely to his troops. We trust, if this be the case, he will not be allowed to go unpunished. The government owes it to the character of the country, to take some steps to repress this abominable state of things at Santa Fe. It has now been several months since the facts were made known,—*has the Administration taken any steps to repress these disorders?*

GEORGE LIPPARD.

In our notice, week before last, of Mr. Lippard's "Legends of Mexico," the following sentence occurs:

Though the idea of making out this Mexican war a holy, religious crusade, is one of the most ludicrous we have met with lately.

Last week we received a letter from Mr. Lippard, in which he indignantly *denies the utterance of any sentiment embodying the idea that the Mexican war is a holy, religious crusade*.

We have thought it only fair that Mr. Lippard should have the advantage of this denial; at the same time, we take the liberty to declare our opinion that, if he did not mean to embody such an idea, upon several occasions, in the first part of his "Legends," he was singularly unfortunate in his choice of words.

Mr. Lippard concludes his letter to us, by stating that we "are in no condition to judge his works." If he thinks we are too prejudiced against him to pass a fair judgment upon his productions, the right course for him to pursue is very evident. Let him direct his publisher not to send us any more of his books. We shall certainly be thankful to get rid of the duty of noticing the works of an author so very hard to please as Mr. Lippard.

TEN GUILDER PIECES.

Persons must be careful when taking foreign gold coins not to mistake ten guilder pieces for sovereigns. The ten guilder pieces are stamped with the head of King William on one side, whilst on the other side is a rampant lion upon a shield, surmounted by a large crown. On one side of the lion is the figure 10, and opposite the ratio the letter G, (10 Guilders,) and they are about the size of an American quarter of a dollar. The five guilders have a similar stamp, with the figure 5 instead of 10, and, of course, exactly half the size. Five and ten guilder pieces are the most convenient coins which foreigners can bring to this country, as they contain even dollars; thus five guilders are exactly $2, and ten guilders are exactly $4. The quality of the gold is good, and makes a very handsome coin.

THE OREGON EMIGRANTS.

Nearly one hundred persons, men, women and children—are supposed to have been either murdered by the Indians, or perished for want of food, on the Southern route to Oregon. It is said they were induced to take that route, by the interested representations of persons who own land in that part of the country, and therefore wish to force emigration to it. Surely such selfish speculators, sooner or later, shall have their reward.

MORE HELP.

We learn that Mr. Charles J. Hennis, formerly [illegible] of the United States Gazette, has been engaged by the publishers of the Daily News, as one of the editors of that journal. Mr. Hennis is a writer both of talent and discretion, and will be a valuable auxiliary to the News. The Germantown Telegraph expresses the opinion that the editorials of Mr. Hennis, while engaged on the Gazette, were "the best which appeared in that paper."

THE BITER BIT.

A man recently bit off a portion of another's tongue while fighting with him, in this city, a short time since, and the matter has been compromised by the payment of $3,000. This is not a cent too much for so heinous an offence. Though it would have been better if the biter had been sent to the Penitentiary for a while, to [illegible] sermons in stones, and books in running [illegible] as Shakspeare does [illegible].

PEACE RUMOR.

The New Orleans "La Patria" professed some time since to have received news from the city of Mexico to the effect that [illegible].

We fear this report is too good to be true, but a few days more will probably settle the question whether we are to have immediate peace.

THEY FEARED THE PEOPLE.

So great were the fears entertained by the French Government lest tumults should occur at Paris, during the *fetes* in commemoration of the revolution of July, 1830, that policemen visited all the gunsmith's shops, and removed the fire arms exposed for sale, in order that the weapons might not be seized by insurgent republicans.

LUCIFER MATCHES.

One of our exchanges tells a long story about an emigrant to this country who made a large fortune in a short time by making lucifer matches. This is nothing. We have heard of scores of young men who have made fortunes by making *lucifer* matches—at least they were such matches we are certain as are not "made in Heaven."

A GOOD JOKE.

An elector was brought all the way from Paris, at considerable expense, by the friends of Major General Caulfield, to vote at the Abingdon (England) election, and then voted for another, [illegible] the General's opponent. The best of the joke was, however, that that one vote decided the election.

SHAMEFUL.

On account of some bad feeling existing between the Boston Telegraph Company, and the Atlantic, Lake and Ohio Line, the former has issued an order refusing to [illegible] receive despatches coming over the latter.

New Publications.

TO PUBLISHERS.

We have a number of works [illegible] we could not find time [illegible] we hope in our next paper.

THE FAIRY QUEEN.—We announced, week before last, the appearance of a volume by Professor Hart, of the Philadelphia High School, containing an essay on the Life and Writings of Spenser, with a special exposition of the Fairy Queen. Having since perused the work, and given it some little examination, we may be allowed to express our high appreciation of Professor Hart's labors.

[illegible]

We may remark, in conclusion, that the volume is adorned with a portrait of Spenser, [illegible] The work is [illegible] for sale by [illegible].

NORMAN'S BRIDGE; OR, THE MODERN MIDAS.—*By the author of "The Two Old Men's Tales." New York: Harper & Brothers.* The author of this work is very highly spoken of by persons of excellent literary taste. The object of the present work seems to be to hold up the evil of covetousness in all its odious and unholy features. Covetousness is the *meanest* of all the vices. Other vices often seem to have something noble mixed with them, but this is entirely of the earth, earthy. Of Mammon, Milton says:

"*Even in Heaven*

His looks were downward bent, admiring more
The riches of Heaven's pavement, trodden gold,
Than aught divine or holy, else enjoyed
In vision beatific."

A novel devoted to the purpose of impressing the folly as well as wickedness of Mammon worship, can hardly fail to be useful in this money-loving age. It is for sale by *Lindsay & Blakiston, Philadelphia. Price 25 cents.*

FRIEND'S REVIEW.—We have received the first number of a new periodical, bearing the above title, designed, in the language of its Prospectus, "to defend and uphold the great principles, both in theory and practice, which the Society of Friends, from their rise to the present day, have professed and maintained—avoiding, however, as far as practicable, all controversial discussions, more particularly on questions which lead to no important practical result." It is to be edited by Enoch Lewis, a gentleman widely known for his mental ability, and published weekly by *Josiah Tatum, Philadelphia; price two dollars per annum, payable in advance.*

GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE.—Graham, for October, is embellished with three engravings—"Hermione," "The Sportsman," and a Fashion Plate. The second engraving, "The Sportsman," takes our fancy—it is a capital picture. Hermione's form and dress are good, but the face falls short of our conception of the character. The contributors to this number are Seba Smith, Mrs. Lydia Jane Peirson, W. Gilmore Simms, Mrs. J. C. Neal, Frank Forester, &c. &c. Cooper continues his "Islets of the Gulf," and T. Buchanan Read has a well written poem, called "A Winter's Night in the Wilderness."

MEMOIR OF THE LIFE OF ELIZABETH FRY, WITH EXTRACTS FROM HER JOURNAL AND LETTERS. *Edited by two of her Daughters. In Two Volumes.* This is an interesting record of one of the most philanthropic souls of the age; and is calculated not only to interest but also to do good to the mind of the reader. The first volume contains a portrait of Mrs. Fry, a calm earnest, courageous, motherly face, with only one fault—the hair is combed down so far over the forehead, that it nearly makes one's eyes water to look at it. The work is for sale by the publisher, *J. H. Moore & Co., No. 193 Chesnut St., Philadelphia.*

LADIES' NATIONAL MAGAZINE.—This Magazine opens with a charming Engraving, "The Mother's Pride"—it also contains a Plate of the Fashions. The contributions are "The Little Hand," by Mrs. Jane G. Swisshelm; "Mary Elliot," by Mrs. Caroline Stark; "The Second [illegible]," by Miss Hunter, &c. &c. Mrs. Stephens continues "The Momentous Question," and the publisher, C. J. Peterson, concludes "The Traitor's Reward." "Trying the Fortune," by Caroline Orne, we have taken the liberty of inserting in our own columns.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK.—Godey, for October, has three engravings—[illegible] the Advertisement, "The Soldier's [illegible]," and "Americanize." [illegible] The contributors are T. S. Arthur, W. G. Simms, [illegible], N. P. Willis, Mrs. S. J. Hale, &c. &c. The publisher announces a new novel, by Miss Leslie, called "Amelia; or, A Young Lady's Vicissitudes," which is commenced in this number.

CAMP AND QUARTER DECK.—*New York: Burgess, Stringer & Co.* This is a concise history of the various battles fought on land and at sea from the breaking out of the French Revolution to the Battle of Waterloo, with over one hundred sketches of the principle military and naval characters who figured during that eventful period. Illustrated by engravings. For sale by *T. B. Peterson, Philadelphia.*

AUGUST TREASURES. THE WARRING MERCHANT. *By Captain Marryat. New York: Burgess, Stringer & Co.* Everything of Captain Marryat's that we have read, we have always found entertaining, even if nothing more. The present volume is for sale by *T. B. Peterson, Philadelphia.*

HISTORY OF THE CONSULATE AND EMPIRE OF NAPOLEON. *By M. A. Thiers. Messrs. Carey & Hart* have published No. 7 of this valuable work. Price twenty-five cents a number, to be completed in ten numbers.

A VOICE FROM THE SOUTH.—We have received a pamphlet containing letters from "Georgia" to Massachusetts, and to the Southern States. They are written with considerable ability.

THE FARMER'S LIBRARY.—Zieber & Co. have sent us the September number of "The Farmer's Library," edited by John S. Skinner. It is an excellent periodical.

SERIALS.—We have received "The Chronicle" for August, No. 184 of Littell's Living Age, from Zieber & Co.; and No. [illegible] Harper's Illuminated Pictorial Bible, for sale by Lindsay & Blakiston.

THE SOUTH [illegible].—This is a [illegible] Monthly [illegible] of the [illegible]. It is to be [illegible] in Greenville and published by W. [illegible], No. 103 South Third street.

THE ARABIAN NIGHTS.—We have received Part [illegible] of the new edition of this children's classic. The publishers are L. B. Robinson & Co., New York.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE.—We have received from Zieber & Co. No. [illegible] of this excellent periodical.

Local Intelligence.

THE SATURDAY COURIER CASE.

We mentioned in our last, that the appraisers mutually appointed by Mr. McMakin and Mrs. Holden, had agreed upon a valuation of the paper, estimating the "patronage and good will" of the Courier to have been worth, on the day Mr. Holden deceased, the sum of $60,000, and the net profits since, at $29,411, (or at the rate of $30,000 a year,) making the whole valuation at the present time, nearly $90,000.

The case has since been up twice before Judge Parsons. Mr. McMakin's counsel protested against the valuation of the referees as excessive, and such as no one would give for the paper. But as it appeared that the parties could come to no arrangement between themselves, the Judge determined to issue a decree of sale and appoint a receiver. Josiah Randall, Esq., for Mr. McMakin, protested against the issuing of the decree, and the appointment of a receiver, desiring that the concern might be advertised and sold under the superintendence of Mr. McMakin. He also, at the same time, avowed the determination of the defendant to carry the case to a higher tribunal, and to hold the complainants responsible for any injury that might result to the establishment from these proceedings. Judge Parsons, in reply, stated that he had waited with great patience, hoping that an amicable arrangement might be made between the parties, but very little disposition had been evinced by the parties to promote such an end, and he was now determined to dispose of the matter finally. He knew the delicate nature and sensitiveness of the good will of the establishment—that to touch it was to injure it—and the lenient course which he had chosen had been induced by a desire to preserve it from unnecessary harm; and now if injury did result to it the parties were themselves to blame. He had felt disposed to suffer the establishment to remain in Mr. McMakin's hands until the sale, but he had not complied, though ample opportunity had been afforded him, with the directions of the Court, in filing the stipulations agreed upon. The only course, therefore, left for the Court, was to order a decree of sale to issue, and appoint a receiver, and also to order the issuing of an injunction immediately upon the complainants' filing the necessary bond.

John R. Vogdes, Esq., was accordingly appointed receiver, and ordered to give bail in the amount of $60,000 for the faithful performance of his duties. Mrs. Holden, we understand, entered her bond on Saturday, or Monday last, and the injunction was issued forbidding Mr. McMakin from further management of the concern. The Court intimated that the sale would be ordered at an early day. It is to be regretted that the parties could not have come to an amicable settlement of their difficulties; but, under the circumstances, we do not see what other course was left for the Judge to pursue, than that which he has taken.

Since writing the above, the Court has issued its decree requiring the whole Courier establishment to be sold at public sale, at the Philadelphia Exchange, on Wednesday, the 20th of October next (if not disposed of previously), the sale to be for cash within twenty days. It is directed that the sale shall be advertised for two successive weeks, and twice a week, in at least two newspapers in the cities of New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, and Washington—the advertisement not to appear in the Courier.

A NEW LENGTH VOYAGE.—The ship Swatara, with 400 passengers on board, arrived here a day or two ago, from Liverpool, whence she sailed on the 11th of March last—having accomplished her voyage in six months and [illegible] days.

[illegible] was [illegible] and children. [illegible]

DISTRESSING OCCURRENCE.

On Saturday afternoon last, a lady of this city obtained a quantity of laudanum, for the purpose of applying it as an embrocation, to relieve a severe pain in the breast, the vial containing which she placed upon the mantel-piece in her sleeping apartment. In her absence the vial was obtained by the eldest child, a little girl of about six years of age, who after removing the vial, emptied it into a fancy cup, sweetened it, and then administered a portion of it to a sister, two years younger than herself, after which she harmlessly supped the balance until it was gone. The mother had been in the habit of giving drops to her infant, and it is thought the child was induced to partake of the drug from the fact of having seen her mother give drops to her infant sister. This occurred late on Saturday afternoon. The children retired to bed, as usual, but at an early hour on Sunday morning, the father was awakened by the eldest child making a strange noise, and upon proceeding to the bed where the children were lying, he found all his efforts to awaken them in vain. He called his wife to his assistance, and endeavored to ascertain the cause, not less of their apparent suffering, than their strange lethargy, which was, however, to her equally unknown, until she bethought herself of the drug she had deposited in the room the afternoon previous. After a short search the empty vial was found, and the truth thus made apparent. The family physician was immediately called in, and promptly applied the usual remedies, which very soon had the effect in the case of the eldest, of relieving it, but not so with the younger, which no effort could arouse. Dr. Reed then called in Dr. W. H. Clapp, for consultation, and the two during Sunday morning tried every expedient to save the child, but unfortunately all their efforts failed, and the child died about 2½ o'clock, P. M. The case is altogether one of the most heart-rending character, and the poor mother, who almost idolized her child, is frantic with grief.

GIRARD COLLEGE.

The ordinance providing for the opening of Girard College, as soon as the buildings are completed, has been finally passed by Councils. There are to be three departments of instruction, to be designated the primary, the principal, and the collegiate. The primary department is to be organized as soon as practicable after the opening of the College, and the principal and collegiate departments when the advanced standing and education of the pupils may render the same necessary. The pupils are to be instructed in the various branches of a sound education as directed by the will of Stephen Girard.

The officers and superintendents of the College are to be a President, a Matron and a Steward; with three female teachers and four governesses for every hundred scholars—the governesses to have charge of the pupils during the hours of recreation and repose. Their salaries are as follows: President, $3,000, and a residence in one of the college buildings, he finding his own table, furniture, &c.; Steward, $800, and to find his own table, &c.; Matron, $500; Principal Female Teacher, $300; First Assistant Teacher, $250; Second Assistant Teacher, $250; Governesses, $200 each. The Matron, female teachers, and governesses to lodge and board at the expense of the Institution. It is the duty of the Directors to give thirty days' notice of the expected opening of the College, for the information of candidates for the various situations, and of those who may have orphans under their charge.

CHANGE OF HOUR.—The hour of departure of the Camden and Amboy Line, from this city and also from New York, has been changed from 5 to 6 o'clock, A. M.

PEACHES.—It is said that the Reybolds, of Delaware, will net this year from the sale of Peaches, in this city, full forty thousand dollars.

Foreign News.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMSHIPS UNION AND BRITANNIA

BREADSTUFFS STILL FALLING—PROBABLE WAR BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND THE POPE.

By the arrival of the Union we have Paris papers to the 20th of August; and by the Britannia Liverpool dates to September 4th.

The panic still continued in England. Flour was down on the 4th instant, to 20s.a25s. 6d. Cotton still continued firm.

The British Islands have been visited by a succession of disastrous hurricanes, which have caused incalculable damages to shipping.

Notwithstanding the war speech of Lord Palmerston on the subject of the Spanish bonds, there is little fear entertained in England that an appeal will be made to the Ultimatum.

A small engagement took place on the 13th of June, at the Cape of Good Hope, between a small party of British troops and an overwhelming number of armed Kaffirs, in which the former suffered a defeat.

The Queen and Royal family still continue in Scotland.

The Great Britain steamer was successfully floated off on the night of the 27th ult., and arrived in Liverpool on the 30th.

The suicide of the Duke de Praslin, at Paris, still agitates the public. Government having seized upon the newspapers which charged the State officers with aiding the suicide, the excitement became intense.

Six journals have been seized for exposing government abuses, viz.:—the Democratie Pacifique, the Estafette, the Gazette de France, the Union Monarchique, the Charivari, and the Reforme. An infernal machine was exploded on the Boulevards, on the 25th ultimo, in the evening, at the most crowded part of that fashionable promenade, in front of the Cafe de Paris. Fortunately no one was hurt. The assassin was immediately arrested.

Count Alfred de Montesquieu, officer of the Legion of Honor, the husband of a rich American lady, and the father of seven or eight children, was found dead in his bed room in Paris, from a stab by a poniard in the heart. A legal investigation ended in a verdict of death by his own hands. He was about 45 years of age.

The French government have [illegible] with doubtful [illegible] of the Pope.

ITALY.

The Austrians were pouring troops into the Papal State. On the 17th a large corps passed the Po.

The occupation of Ferrara has produced a strong sensation in Rome and other cities of Italy. Crowds assemble in the streets, and in the cafes. Some were for proceeding to the residence of the Austrian Minister and pulling down the arms, but this was prevented by the majority. In one evening, more than six thousand young men enrolled their names to start at a moment's notice to oppose the Austrians.

The Cardinal Legate of Ferrara has issued his second protest.

It is stated that the King of Sardinia has protested against the occupation of Ferrara by the Austrians, and offered to place his army and navy at the disposition of the Pope, should the Papal States be invaded by Austria.

Accounts from Rome are of a warlike cast.—The Papal troops were actually on the march to the frontier, and a high feeling of enthusiasm pervaded all ranks of the people. Positive aid was expected from England—but the Paris journals say with bitterness, not from France. The Papal garrison of Ferrara had been strongly reinforced. A declaration of war seems unavoidable on the part of the Pope.

The British Government are preparing a formidable naval expedition at the Ionian Islands, to aid the Pope against Austria, should the latter invade his dominions.

Pope Pius has declared that he will lead the Italian army in person, in case of war with Austria.

The Pope is represented as equally firm and tranquil—fully prepared for whatever his enemies may undertake.

SPAIN.

Navarez has returned to power, at the request of the Queen, but in opposition to the wishes of her mother and the King of the French, whose intrigues he is pledged to oppose.

The Queen of Spain is enciente; her accouchement is expected in the winter. The King says he cannot return to the palace, as a husband, until after that event. Her favorite, the young General Serrano, is still the power behind the throne. She has applied to the Pope for a divorce.

SWITZERLAND.

The accounts from Berne mention that the government had given orders that an account of all the horses fit for cavalry service, should be prepared throughout the cantons. The capital was to be placed in a good state of defence.

The diet continues its sittings, and is determined to suppress the Sonderbunds.

BAVARIA.

Among the liberal measures to be proposed at the approaching session of the Bavarian Parliament, are trial by jury, opening the courts of justice to the public, and the freedom of the press.

IRELAND.

Reports are circulated of ravages by the potato rot, many of which are well authenticated. Although the Irish grain crops are one-fourth larger, the crop of sound potatoes, it is confidently asserted, will not exceed that of last year.

CHINA.

A Colombo Times, extra, of July 13 (Ceylon), contains a very alarming rumor with regard to the relations between England and China, and one which derives considerable probability from the recent [illegible] of Hong Kong. The report is, that the attack on the Bogue forts had roused a desperate spirit of hostility against all foreigners, but especially the English, and had led to a general rising of the people of Canton against them.

The consuls had been compelled to leave Canton, and the Europeans were preparing to follow them.

The above was received at Ceylon by the Haddington steamer, which received it from the Commander of a ship despatched to Calcutta for troops to reinforce the garrison at Hong Kong.

MONEY MATTERS.

It will be gratifying to know that the drafts of Prime, Ward & Co., of New York, of which acceptance was on Wednesday definitely refused by Overend, Gurney & Co., were on Thursday honored by that firm, in consequence of the interposition of the friends of Messrs. Prime, Ward & Co.

GRAIN MARKETS.

LIVERPOOL, Sept. 4th, 1847.—Best Western Canal Flour, 24s 6d a 25s 6d per bbl.; Richmond and Alexandria, 23s 6d a 24s; Philadelphia and Baltimore, 23s 6d a 24s; New Orleans and Ohio, 20s a 21s. Sour, 18s 6d a 20s; Indian Corn, 26s a 31s per quarter. Indian Corn Meal, 11s a 13s per bbl.; Indian Corn, damaged, 20s a 25s per quarter. Wheat, white and mixed, 8s 6d a 9s 6d per 70 lbs. Oat Meal, per 240 lbs, 28s a 29s. Barley, per 60 lbs., 3s to 3s 4d. A gradual downward tendency is perceptible in the Corn Market, with little hopes of a re-animation.

A large business, however, continues to be done in Wheat and Flour, but at declining rates, mainly influenced by large supplies, both home and foreign. The home, however, is generally looked upon as secure, and the crops generally are considered to be a full average, and other produce is not deficient, either in quality or supply. The present quotations cannot be regarded as the minimum point.

COTTON.

Sea Island ordinary to middling, 10d a 13d per pound. Fair to good Fair, 15d a 17d. Good to Fine, 20d to 24d. Stained varies from 5½d to 10d. The sales for the week ending on the 27th ult., amounted to 20,710 bales. Of which only 600 were for speculation, 1,500 for export. The American descriptions this week consist of 2,960 Upland, 3,920 New Orleans, 2,730 Mobile, and 190 Sea Island. The pressure which unfortunately still exists in the Money Market, has affected the operations of manufacturers, producing a disinclination to speculate, and a decided curtailment of the consumption of Cotton; prices are however, maintained with great firmness, and a fair amount of business has been transacted. It must, notwithstanding, be confessed that business wears a gloomy aspect in the manufacturing districts, with little promise of reaction until money becomes more easily obtainable.

PROVISIONS.

Beef, prime mess, per tce., new, 90s. to 92s 6d. Ordinary, 8[illegible] to 88s. Mess, per bbl., 50s to 5[illegible] 6d. Ordinary, [illegible] to 48s.

MISCELLANEOUS MARKETS.

Turpentine, rough, duty free, per cwt., 7[illegible]s. to [illegible]s. Spirits, [illegible] to [illegible]s. Oils, Lard, duty free, per ton, £3[illegible] to £41; Whale, £26 to £28. Pitch, per cwt., 2s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. Tar, per barrel, 14s to 16s. Lard, fine leaf, in kegs, per cwt., 53s. to 55s.; do. in barrels, 50s. to 5[illegible]s.; ordinary to middling, 45s. to 48s.; inferior and grease, 30s. to [illegible]. Tallow, duty paid, per cwt., 44s. to 47s. 6d. Tobacco—Virginia, from faded to stemmed, 3d. to 6d. per lb. Kentucky, leaf, 2½d. to 3½d.; stemmed, [illegible] to 5d. Hemp, dew-rotted, per ton, £28 to £31; hackled, £30 to £37. Seeds, flax, per bhd., 47s. to 48s.; clover, 35s. to 40s.; timothy, 20s. to 25s.

Bark, Quercitron, per cwt. New York and Philadelphia, [illegible] to 10s. The supply of Beef has been limited, and prices are, in consequence, well maintained. Pork has been dull, save for new Mess, the transactions have been unusually limited.

There is no American Lead in market at present.

The World Abroad.

AFFAIRS IN ITALY.

Letters from Rome have reached us down to the 22d ult. It was reported in that capital that the Secretary of State had forwarded a note to the Cabinet of Vienna, in which he declared that should the Austrians not evacuate the town of Ferrara within a fortnight, the Pope would recall his Nuncio from Vienna, and send passports to Count Lutzow, the Austrian Ambassador at Rome. The Pope had instructed the Governors of Ancona and Civita Vecchia, to supply those fortresses with three months' provisions.

Preparations for war form the chief items of news from Rome. An artillery captain, named Lopez, has been sent to France to purchase ten thousand muskets, and ten thousand hands are ready to receive them, that number of young volunteers having offered themselves to resist an enemy. Meanwhile the Roman government strives to continue to arm the civil guard, for which purpose citizens from all parts of the States offer it aid. Signor Azeglio is on the point of starting for Romagna, charged with full powers to organize resistance in case of necessity. The Pope displays a peace of courage beyond all praise. He has established a camp of 12,000 regular troops at [illegible], which is every day reinforced by a number of volunteers. The enthusiasm of the people is at a great height at Rome. The early organization of a battalion of priests and monks is spoken of, and it is certain that a great number of the religious exercise themselves in the practice of arms.

The Pope rides about the city on a white horse, which he brought from Florence, and shows his loyal and faithful subjects a face beaming with calmness and confidence, and the profound sentiment of his rights and his strength. M. Rossi having offered him his mediation on the subject of the affair of Ferrara, he replied that, considering himself seriously offended, he would not [illegible].

[illegible]

FOREIGN ITEMS.

[illegible]

Religious Intelligence.

[illegible]

United States SATURDAY POST.

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Mr. C. W. JAMES, of Harrison street, Cincinnati, Ohio, is our Agent for Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa and Wisconsin, assisted by *J. T. Dent, E. Y. Jennings, and Frederick J. Hawes.*

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Subscriptions will be received at either of the above mentioned Depots.

From the Seat of War

FROM THE ARMY.

[illegible]

Abroad.

ITALY.

[illegible]

ITEMS.

[illegible]

ARMY ITEMS.

[illegible]

Intelligence.

[illegible]

THE LATE BATTLES.

Since the issue of our last paper, the New Orleans papers have overflowed with accounts of the operations of the Army, and the various actions which took place before Santa Anna was driven into the City of Mexico; but we very much question whether, if we were to publish the whole of them, our readers would get a much clearer idea of Gen. Scott's movements than what was furnished them by the first simple account. Nevertheless, as they may wish to read something more upon the subject, we copy from the New Orleans Delta, the following graphic sketches of the two main battles of Contreras and Churubusco, which are perhaps the best accounts that have yet been laid before the public:

THE BATTLE OF CONTRERAS.

At 3 o'clock on the morning of the 20th, our troops commenced the movement towards the front of attack—the night was so dark that the men could not go out of reach of one another for fear of losing their way. This caused the movement to be so slow that daybreak approached before the head of Gen. Cadwalader's brigade commenced descending into the ravine at the village. As soon as Col. Riley got out of the deep ravine, and at a point where it was thought the rear of the work could be approached, the head of the column halted and closed—at the same time drawing the loads out of the guns supposed to be wet. Col. Riley then formed his division in column by divisions, and thus the column stood formed, Col. Riley's brigade on the advance, next Gen. Cadwalader's and Gen. Smith's brigades, which, together with the sappers and miners, under the command of Major Dimick, closed up the rear—leaving Gen. Shields at the village. Col. Riley continued up the ravine bearing a little to his left, and as he raised over the bank he stood fronting the rear of the enemy's work, but he was protected from the severity of its fire by the favorable position of the ground. As soon as Col. Riley ascended the hill and came in full view of the enemy, they immediately opened a warm fire upon him. [illegible]

... the Capital—his troops knew that they were fighting for the last remnant of the Republic, and they stood their ground with as much firmness and resolution as any troops could stand, before the army we at present have here. The roar of musketry was so great, that it was almost impossible for the soldiers to hear the orders of their officers. There was no point at which the action did not rage with severity for more than two hours, which is proven by the fact that our loss at this point was nearly 1,000 men.

After the contest had lasted about two hours, our troops had got into such a position as to be able to close with them at the point of the bayonet, which decided the affair in our favor—General Pillow and General Worth carrying the work on the road, an officer of General Pillow's division taking down one flag, and one of General Worth's taking down the other, and the 8th infantry planting their colors instead. General Twigg's division carrying the work it attacked at the church, Captain J. M. Smith, of the 3d infantry, received the surrender of the work, with seven pieces of artillery, two stand of colors, General Rincon, together with 104 officers, and upwards of 1,100 non-commissioned officers and privates, surrendered as prisoners of war. General Shields had his work more to himself, and he fully sustained that high reputation hitherto acquired on the field of battle. When the contest raged highest, and his men were falling around him in every direction, he preserved that even temperament of mind for which he is so characteristic, his countenance wearing that bland and affable appearance throughout the whole engagement. His volunteers stood and moved under the fire with the regularity of veteran troops. South Carolina has sustained a heavy loss. Colonel Butler was wounded twice before he received the fatal shot. Two color-bearers were successively shot down, when Lieutenant Colonel Dickinson took the colors, and was bearing the Palmetto proudly amidst the storm, when he also received a severe wound. About the same time that the three divisions at the lines were enabled to close, General Shields succeeded in driving from their position the large force with which he was contending.

The dragoons were now brought forward and [illegible]

THE BATTLE OF CHURUBUSCO.

[illegible]

FROM YUCATAN.

[illegible]

Miscellaneous.

TRUE ECONOMY.

A SKETCH OF REAL LIFE.

At a musical soiree last winter at the splendid mansion of a thriving merchant, and withal a man of taste and liberality, we were struck with the magnificence which met our eye in every direction. The highly polished mahogany doors—the ponderous and beautiful Egyptian marble mantel-pieces—the rich Wilton and royal carpets—highly polished chairs and divans—elaborately carved and gilt cornices—pier glasses—suspending girandoles—satin curtains—all after the fashion of Henry IV. The drawing-rooms were filled with elegantly dressed ladies and gentlemen, and the supper and refreshments presented a scene of richness and luxury only to be looked for from persons of overgrown fortune.

"How long can this last?" we said to ourselves, together with reflections which pressed upon us as to the rapid manner we gain and get rid of fortunes in this city. How like a rocket we ascend and descend!

One day last week we took a ride in a light rockaway over one of the delightful roads on Long Island, to catch a little air and an appetite for dinner, and stopped to look at an Italian cottage with green Venetian piazettas and porticoes, in neat taste, surrounded by a white paling, and filled with shrubbery—a cheap, light homestead, with some fields of corn and potatoes, and a patch of wheat in the distance. While gazing on the simplicity, cheerfulness and comfort of the premises, we were roused by hearing some one call out—"Hallo, stranger!" and on looking, discovered it to be our [illegible]

General News.

CHICAGO CONVENTION.

[illegible]

A NEW RAILROAD.

[illegible]

COLONEL FREMONT.

[illegible]

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.

[illegible]

TEN HOUR SYSTEM.

[illegible]

BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS.

[illegible]

NEW YORK TOBACCO.

[illegible]

FRENCH GUIANA.

[illegible]

HORRIBLE.

[illegible]

GALVANISM.

[illegible]

FLOUR AND GRAIN.

[illegible]

Political Intelligence.

[illegible]

Clippings.

[illegible]

Statistical.

[illegible]

The Markets.

PHILADELPHIA MARKETS.

[illegible]

SALES OF STOCKS.

[illegible]

CATTLE MARKETS.

[illegible]

NEW YORK MARKETS, SEPT. 18.

[illegible]

BALTIMORE TOBACCO MARKET.

[illegible]

Bank Note List.

[illegible]

ALMANAC.

[illegible]

STATE OF THE THERMOMETER.

[illegible]

Married.

[illegible]

Died.

[illegible]

NEVER DESPAIR.

Philadelphia, July 28, 1846.

TO THE PUBLIC.—I certify that before my remembrance I became afflicted with what the physicians called *Scrofula*. It made its first appearance by pain and swelling of the joints—more especially of my ankles, knees, wrists and elbows, after which the glands of my throat and neck became inflamed and swelled, attended with most excruciating pains. I was often confined entirely to my bed, and for weeks together could not move my neck or turn my head. Several physicians attended me at different times—but they did not appear to do me any good.

About a year ago I was attacked with vomiting, which continued every few minutes all one night. The next day an eruption appeared on the sides of my neck, which soon spread all over my neck, head and face, with inflammation of my eyes and eyelids, which destroyed my eyelashes, and caused the hair to fall from off my head, and soon the disease spread all over me, my limbs were one entire scab. I could not bend my hands or arms without causing the skin to crack open, when the blood would run out. Some of my finger nails came off. In short, I was unable to get my own living, and in this condition I called upon Dr. JAYNE, in order that he might undertake my case. He directed me to take his *Alterative* three times a day, and his *Sanative Pills* as often as I should find it necessary. I have now taken his *Alterative* four months, and am most happy to say that it has entirely cured me.

CAROLINE NEWBERRY,

No. 118 North Tenth street, Philadelphia.

If any person doubts my statement, they will please call upon Mrs. D. Stewart and Mrs. E. Douglass, Spring Garden street, or on Mrs. Tabour, where I reside, who are acquainted with my situation before and while I was taking Dr. JAYNE's medicine.

C. NEWBERRY.

The medicines are for sale by Dr. D. Jayne, at No. 8 South THIRD Street, Philadelphia. sep 18-3t

Where may be had all the other valuable preparations of Dr. Jayne.

FEVER AND AGUE.—JAYNE'S AGUE PILLS are sold under a GUARANTEE, that one bottle of them will cure one person of Fever and Ague or Chills and Fever, and in all cases if they should fail to cure, the money will be returned. But they never have failed yet, nor will they fail one time in a thousand cases.

Messrs. A. K. Philleo & Co. says—Camden Mills, Ill. We are much pleased with your medicines, and know that they are both good and popular. We regret [illegible]

PHILADELPHIA COLLEGE OF MEDICINE.

[illegible]

BOY'S SELECT SCHOOL.

[illegible]

DR. ROBY'S BRAZILIAN

HAIR CURLING LIQUID.

THIS ELEGANT PREPARATION [illegible]

A GOOD CHANCE TO CLEAR FROM $500 TO $1000 A YEAR.

AGENTS WANTED IN EVERY TOWN AND COUNTY THROUGHOUT THE UNION [illegible]

PETERSON'S PERIODICAL ESTABLISHMENT. [illegible]

AGENTS WANTED. [illegible]

CARRIAGES! CARRIAGES! [illegible]

CHEAP LEATHER STORE. [illegible]

THE UNITED STATES SATURDAY POST [illegible]

TYPE FOR SALE.

[illegible]

FALL FASHIONS. [illegible]

BOOKS PUBLISHED FOR CANVASSERS. [illegible]

APPLETON'S NEW PUBLICATIONS. [illegible]

ROPE MAKER AND SHIP CHANDLER. [illegible]

SANDS' SARSAPARILLA. [illegible]

INFORMATION IS WANTED [illegible]

Selected Poetry.

THE DYING WIFE TO HER HUSBAND.

BY MARY NOEL McDONALD.

They tell me life is waning fast,
And Death's dark wing unfurled,
Will bear my spirit soon from earth,
Unto an unknown world!
I feel, believe, and we're so—
I feel that even now
His hand is on my fluttering heart,
His shadow o'er my brow.

How shall I leave thee?—how resign
Thy tenderness and care?
The pressure of the clasping hand
Thy blessing, and thy prayer?
Together we have hoped yet
Together wept to ill,
And the love that was so bright in bliss,
In grief was brighter still

Oft then not tears nor fears from thy side,
When twilight's hour hath come?
Will it not seem a desert place,
The paradise of home?
Then, gather close with kneeling love
Our children round thy knee,
And wipe with tenderest hand the tears
Which they will shed for me.

And soothe each little throbbing heart
That asks for me in vain,
And say, that in the far-off heavens
They another love again.
Link not my name with thoughts of death,
But point them to the sky,
And tell them, in the "Better Land"
They neither weep nor die.

Go with them to their lonely couch
At evening's silent close
And softly press each pillowed cheek,
And hush them to repose;
Or bid them kneel with clasped hands
To ling their evening prayer,
Then must unite a father's love,
With all a mother's care.

A mother's care! a mother's love!
And must they never know
How deeply in her heart of hearts
A mother's love may glow?
And will they not, in distant lot
While she who gave them birth,
Lose all forgotten far away,
In low dust cold as earth?

Forgotten! no, beloved one, no!
Then will remember still
The being who hath shared thy lot
Alike in good or ill;
Then will remember all her love,
With faithful, fond regret
And that in the cold tomb she could not hide
Thy heart will ever forget

And then will come to that lone spot
Where the green willow waves,
And lend our children's very feet
Among the quiet graves,
And read for them the sculptured stone—
Read record of my life—
Then see how faithfully I loved,
As mother, and as wife.

How can I say farewell to thee?
How mark thy bitter tears?
Look up, beloved, we only part
For a few fleeting years;
They will roll over thy darkened path,
Swiftly as shadows flee,
And in a world of holier love
Will our blest meeting be.

Interesting Letter.

PRESENT CONDITION OF THE LABORING CLASSES.

BY GEORGE COMBE.

[The latest number of the People's Journal contains a letter from the celebrated George Combe. It was written in answer to a gentleman of the United States, who wished to learn the opinions of the author of the Constitution of Man, on the great question of Association.]

DEAR SIR—Your letter dated in July reached me only in October, and I beg to thank you for it, and the translation of Fourier's work which accompanied it.

I agree in your view of Fourier's system, so far as I understand it, and regard it as impracticable in the present state of society. You ask, "What else can the laboring population do for their own elevation and improvement, and the removal of the sum total which at present grinds them into the earth?" In answering this question, I submit two points to your consideration.

1st. *Individuals* cannot change suddenly the condition of the society in which they live. Even Peter the Great, of Russia, and Joseph the Second, of Austria, although sovereigns armed with despotic power, and men of great energy of character, could not succeed in reforming the administration of their own governments and civilizing their own people. And the reason of their failure was, that the individuals to be reformed (most nations were rude, ignorant and superstitious, and perfectly useless or hurtful action which were in harmony with their own low mental condition, to higher natures which would have been at variance with it. For only ways to produce a great social improvement, is by degrees to infuse new principles into the mass, and to teach them to the children. It requires three generations, at least, to operate an important social change.

Thus, you will say, presents a poor prospect to individuals who, like yourself, possess the imperfections of the present state of things, and suffer from it. I acknowledge that it does so, and wish that it were otherwise; but the cause of the evil which you endure, lies in the moral and intellectual condition of the state to which you belong. The great majority of them are still low in their moral and intellectual attainments, and render their present external condition by their part of the people themselves for a higher. There is only one reasonable obstacle, for example, to all the operations in Lowell cotton mill forming themselves into a joint stock company, performing all the work themselves, and dividing the profits—and this one obstacle is the low condition of their moral and intellectual faculties, which would render them incapable of a prolonged, moral and efficient co-operation. Were such a scheme tried, you would see the industrious men acting at power in the management of their own profitable concerns, regardless of their real capacity to direct the work with advantage to the general interests; you would find the selfish men aiming at some extra advantage to themselves, jealous of others, and discontented; the indolent men, idle and the profligate men, reckless. The ancient of Orleanite, where Mr. Owen's system was tried, and would probably happen upon at Lowell, is now found. I infer that as the only insurmountable obstacle to the success of the supposed scheme—because I am convinced that if the operatives had only the moderate degree of the ordinary intelligence, business talents and good faith, there is reason enough among themselves to set up and manage such an establishment. The union of the savings banks belong chiefly to the laboring class, and why do they prefer a low rate of interest from one of those banks to a higher rate from a third and a somewhat of their own people, except that they have not confidence in the honesty and business talents? Moreover, I am satisfied that only the same want of confidence stands in the way of ordinary capitalists inviting men to such associations.

In these, then, are remedy for those deficiencies in the working classes? There is none but the same of exempt education, or intellectual instruction and moral training. Your Education Society with the Hon. Horace Mann at its head, is among the most effectual means that can be devised to promote the extension and improvement of the people of Massachusetts. The working classes generally see the benefits bestowed by them in education in a sufficiently strong light.

For my own part, I can discover no cause why capital and its advantages are more so exclusively in the hands of the higher and middle classes, except their superior intelligence, business talents and good faith—qualities these qualities have been wanting in them, can has overtaken them, just as it has overwhelmed ameliorations or the operatives. In this country, the latter operates are providing against sickness and death for other, but in the hands of the operatives, while in those of the middle classes, the same sum of Life and Insurance offices they accumulate enormous wealth. The causes of the different results are easily traced. The poor man's club or benefit is a terrible, the landlord or often the treasurer; the rates adopted are not calculated on any accurate data as proportion to the risks; and the whole scheme is one often managed by ambitious busybodies, whose vanity far exceeds their intelligence—and on the latter prevalent. The city associations of the middle classes have no connection with the lawyers; they are managed by men of the highest intelligence as that description can be found, and who are adequately paid according to they skill; they rates are founded on data scientifically ascertained; the funds are wrought lonely invested in good securities; and the management combat the whole concern on *good faith*, for the benefit of *all* the members; and hence their success.

I may take another example. In some of your States joint-stock banks were instituted in great numbers. In many instances the Cashiers and Directors applied the funds to their own use, lost them, and the banks failed. What of *intelligence* and *honesty* was the cause of their ruin. Wherever, on the other hand, these qualities prevailed in the management, the banks prospered. In Massachusetts you had fewer bank failures than in other States, and why? Solely because moral and intellectual cultivation was further advanced there among the class who make and manage banks, than in the other States. In Scotland, only five or five joint-stock banks have failed since 1826, and I know the history of every one of them; they were small provincial establishments, and the managers of them applied the funds to their own purposes and lost them. In short, all these banks perished through deficiency.

In the course of my experience, during thirty years in the profession of the law, in connection chiefly with the middle class of society, I had abundant proofs that those who prospered were active, intelligent, and *moral*, and that those who failed were deficient in these qualities, or in one to others of them.

There is, therefore, in my view, no system, theory, or combination of circumstances that will confer on the operative classes, while they continue ill-educated, unskilled in the business habits which fit men for intelligent co-operation, and deficient in systematic honesty, the advantages which the middle classes derive from a higher moral and intellectual cultivation. I do not mean to charge the operative class with general dishonesty, in their present circumstances, but what I have remarked, in this country, is this—that when responsibility to a master is withdrawn, and when large interests are committed to their discretionary management, will no check except that imposed by their own intelligence and sense of justice, they often make shipwreck of the concern through ignorance and incapacity, and not unfrequently find their moral principles, very feeble, so to keep them honest as workmen, upset, and inadequate to guide them as managers or trust for others. Until they learn to combine intellectual capacity with unbending integrity, capital cannot remain in their possession. Again, I repeat, that I expect the remedy appears to me to lie in a higher education of the people. Place them on a level in point of moral and intellectual attainments with the higher orders, and the discrepancies in the fortunes of the two will be greatly lessened, or altogether disappear.

2d. While this change is in progress, the only interference is the intelligent and moral member of the lowest class, is to endeavor to enter into the middle order. There are no unwillingness in the latter to receive and assist the former to rise, wherever they see the necessary qualifications present. Among my friends and acquaintances, there are at least half a dozen men who have risen from abject poverty to wealth through my own eyes, by the sheer force of their talents and honesty.

What some operatives desire, is to enjoy the advantages of high qualities without taking the trouble of acquiring them; but this is as much adverse to nature as it would be to expect to reap a rich harvest without sowing in spring. Another error into which they are apt to fall, is to imagine that if the entire profits of their labor were divided among them—say among the operatives of a Lowell Mill—each of them would receive as much as falls to the lot of the capitalist who supplies to whom it belongs. This is obviously a mistake. It is probable that they would not receive above one hundred dollars each of extra gain, supposing the capital all their own; and this would not essentially change their condition.

You ask whether I anticipate the realization of a higher state of society than that which now exists? *Everything is possible and everything is right*; but I am not a believer in Perfectibility on earth. Sometimes he smiles—Men are fools and rogues, but as I am to live with them, I will not quarrel with them on that account." One day he addressed the very questionable subject to Voltaire and Helvetius, and a few minutes after he passed him without taking any notice of her. She subsequently told me that she was not at all offended, if I looked at you I could not have passed." Being chosen arm at a play, while seated at table, some one said to him, "Sir, you have a very pretty sister." "That is the way with us kings," replied he; "we have only sisters." Upon the Queen offering to elevate him to some high station, the philosopher replied, "My lord, do not imprison me in the midst of a people that will soon expire." That prince, complaining to him of the corruption of mankind, he replied, "There are, however, honest people, but they live in the woods." Lord Voltaire, upon a solitude or desert, replied more rude. "Sir, I perceive, where he dwells." Upon a dog-stone, which attracts to itself nothing but filth.

BURLEIGH.

Selected Articles.

THE RAILROAD.

FROM THE SCHENECTADY [illegible]

[illegible]

Choice Selections.

THE HOLY LAND.

Miss Harriet Martineau is now on a pilgrimage through the Holy Land, and at each place of her impressions in a series of letters to the People's Journal, a periodical published in England by William and Mary Howitt. We have from one of these letters the following paragraphs:

It was on Sunday, March 29th, that we were to enter the Holy Land. I had been too much engrossed by the objects which interested us at every step in Egypt and Arabia to think much of this beforehand; but when I came forth from our tent in the dawn of that morning, there was enough of novelty in the scene around me to put me quite on the qui vive. We were about to enter upon a new country, and a new set of interests; and I became eager to know at what hour we were to cross the frontier. We had separated the Desert from the Holy Land—the home of the old Faith from that of the west. We had followed the track of Moses from the place where his mother placed his bulrush cradle to that on which he died; for to the East we should this morning see the mountain overhanging the Dead Sea; and among them the summit of Nebo, whence he beheld the promised land—the land of Promise, and was not suffered to enter upon the country of Jesus—certain to walk in His very footsteps, and see what He saw, and among the rest, the very hills among which He used to retire to pray. Then we were to enter upon the country of Jesus—certain to walk in His very footsteps, and see what He saw, and among the rest, the very hills among which He used to retire to pray. Then we were to enter upon the country of Jesus—certain to walk in His very footsteps, and see what He saw, and among the rest, the very hills among which He used to retire to pray.

"We had left the stony Desert behind us, and were encamped in a nook of the hills where the ground was green, and wild flowers grew. There was grass under my bed in the tent, and when I came out this morning, the first sight that met my eyes was a flock of goats, with their kids, and shepherds and shepherdesses feeding such an interest in every wild flower, in the habits of all the hills, and the track of all the water courses